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(54) Title: USE OF CLUSTERIN FOR THE TREATMENT AND/OR PREVENTION OF PERIPHERAL NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the use of clusterin, or of an agonist of clusterin activity, for treatment or prevention of peripheral neurological diseases. The invention further relates to the use of a combination of clusterin and heparin, for treatment or prevention of peripheral neurological diseases.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A61K38/17 A61K38/19 A61K38/21 A61P25/02 A61P9/10
 // (A61K38/17, 31:727)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, MEDLINE, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>BONNARD ANNE-SOPHIE ET AL: "Expression of clusterin and C4 mRNA during rat peripheral nerve regeneration." IMMUNOPHARMACOLOGY, vol. 38, no. 1-2, December 1997 (1997-12), pages 81-86, XP002254399 ISSN: 0162-3109 page 85, right-hand column - page 86, left-hand column</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-/-</p>	1-25

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search 13 October 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 20/10/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Deck, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP2004/050372

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	GIANNAKOPOULOS P ET AL: "Possible neuroprotective role of clusterin in Alzheimer's disease: A quantitative immunocytochemical study." ACTA NEUROPATHOLOGICA, vol. 95, no. 4, April 1998 (1998-04), pages 387-394, XP002254400 ISSN: 0001-6322 page 392, left-hand column, paragraph 4 - page 393 -----	1-25
A	ROSENBERG M E ET AL: "CLUSTERIN: PHYSIOLOGIC AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGIC CONSIDERATIONS" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND CELL BIOLOGY, EXETER, GB, vol. 27, no. 7, 1995, pages 633-645, XP001002844 ISSN: 1357-2725 the whole document -----	1-25
A	WO 02/092122 A (FEGER GEORG ;PAPOIAN RUBEN (CH); BOSCHERT URSULA (CH); BERNASCONI) 21 November 2002 (2002-11-21) the whole document -----	11,20, 21,24,25
A	EP 0 513 513 A (ALFA WASSERMANN SPA) 19 November 1992 (1992-11-19) claims -----	10,19,23
A	US 2002/040013 A1 (UZAN ANDRE ET AL) 4 April 2002 (2002-04-04) the whole document -----	10,19,23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/050372

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 22 - 25 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body (Article 52(4) EPC), the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/050372

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